

Emma

Jane Austen



Pearson English Readers

Emma
Jane Austen

About the author

Jane Austen's literary genius is universally acknowledged. Her novels, written in the early part of the nineteenth century, are considered masterpieces. Essentially romances, the novels are sharply observed, beautifully constructed, and have tremendous realism and wit. Of these, *Emma* (1816) is generally agreed to be Austen's most accomplished work. A film of *Emma* was released in 1996.

Jane Austen was born in 1775 in the Hampshire countryside; she had five brothers and one sister. Her father was a clergyman and his wife was an energetic woman who also had some literary talent. Recent biographies reveal that the family had constant financial difficulties. The family was lively and affectionate, with many relatives.

Austen started writing as a teenager. Even at that age her works were incisive and elegantly expressed. The few letters that remain reveal her lively if rather acid wit! Of her appearance, her brother wrote, 'In person she was very attractive; her figure was rather tall and slender ... She was a clear brunette with a rich colour.' Austen received several proposals of marriage but rejected them. She fell in love with a young man who reciprocated her feelings – but since both were penniless they were not allowed to marry. By her mid-twenties, Austen regarded herself as a spinster, drawing ever closer to her beloved elder sister Cassandra, who after Austen's death, described her as 'the sun of my life'.

Austen wrote six major novels. *Sense and Sensibility* (1811), *Pride and Prejudice* (1813), *Mansfield Park* (1814) and *Emma* (1816) which were published during her lifetime. *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion* were published

in 1818 after her death. The books were popular. Highly placed public figures admired her novels greatly. The Prince Regent (heir to the throne) kept a set of her novels in each of his homes.

In 1800, when Jane was 25, her parents moved from the family home, and did not settle until 1810. During this period Austen wrote very little – an indication of how disturbed she was by the move. Austen died in 1817, at the age of 41, possibly of a form of cancer.

Summary

Emma, the 21-year-old heroine of the book, is beautiful, clever and rich. Her mother died when she was very young, so her governess played the part of her mother. Another old friend is Mr Knightley, a man in his late thirties who treats Emma like a younger sister. Although Emma is charming, she is rather spoilt. She befriends a young woman, Harriet, who is of a lower social class. Emma amuses herself by matchmaking, convinced of her own superiority and knowledge of people's hearts. She makes several attempts to pair off Harriet with men she considers suitable. But, unbeknown to Emma, Harriet has fallen in love with Mr Knightley, who appears to return her affection. When Harriet reveals her feelings to Emma, our heroine realises with horror, that while claiming to know others' hearts, she has neglected to know her own – and she is desperately in love with Mr Knightley.

Chapters 1–3: The story begins with Emma's old governess, and companion's, marriage to Mr Weston. Soon afterwards Emma befriends Harriet and begins to match-make on her behalf. Her first target is Mr Elton, the vicar. She advises Harriet to refuse an offer of marriage from a local farmer, Mr Martin, as she believes Harriet can make a better match.

Much to Emma's surprise, Mr Elton proposes to her, but she refuses. Harriet is upset to learn that she is not the object of Mr Elton's affections. Mr Elton leaves town for a short break. Emma learns that Jane Fairfax, a lady with whom she is acquainted, is to return to Highbury for an extended visit with her aunt, Miss Bates. News comes of Mr Elton's impending marriage to a lady of fortune, only four weeks after leaving Highbury.

Chapters 4–6: Emma learns that Frank Churchill, Mr Weston's son, who was adopted by the Churchill's, is coming to Highbury for a long awaited visit. Mr Churchill and Emma meet and form an immediate friendship.

Emma

Emma does not form a good opinion of Mr Elton's new wife. Mr Churchill and Emma start to plan a ball but he is called away. Emma, upon reflection, decides that she is not in love with Mr Churchill after all. Soon afterwards Mr Churchill returns and the ball takes place.

Chapters 7–9: Harriet is harassed by some gypsies and Frank Churchill saves her. Emma supposes her to be in love with him and thinks it is a good match. A trip is arranged to Box Hill but it is not a success and Emma behaves rudely towards Miss Bates. Emma's behaviour angers Mr Knightley.

Emma feels ashamed and goes to see Miss Bates where she learns Miss Fairfax is to take a position as a governess to three children. After an illness, old Mrs Churchill dies which means that Frank Churchill is free to marry whom he chooses. It comes to light that Frank Churchill and Miss Fairfax are secretly engaged. Harriet reveals to Emma that she is in love with Mr Knightley. Emma is jolted by this news as she is also in love with him.

Much to Emma's joy Mr Knightley proposes to her. Harriet visits London with Isabella, Emma's sister, where she meets Mr Martin, who again proposes to her, this time she accepts. The story ends happily with three weddings.

Background and themes

Austen's works are satirical comedies about the middle and upper-middle classes. The plots are variations on a theme: a young woman's courtship and eventual marriage. By the end of every one of Austen's novels, the heroine has found a husband. The world Austen describes is not large: she describes small social groups in provincial environments. But within this narrow focus Austen explores universal themes: money and its effect on the human psyche; romance and its illusions and the necessary progression towards more realistic relationships, as the courting couples discover each other's true natures.

Love, courtship and marriage: Love, courtship and marriage are central themes in *Emma*, and are the prevalent theme throughout. The story is structured around this theme. In each marriage, the match solidifies the couple's social status. For a young woman of this period, marriage was the surest route to independence and freedom. Marriage to a wealthy man of good birth was the most desirable position as this could raise one's social status. Unmarried women living in their parents' home (as Austen was) were considered second-class citizens.

Character development: The heroine is self-assured but makes many mistakes. She is a snob and with her well-intentioned interference, almost ruins the life of her friend Harriet. Yet, with all these faults, Emma remains lovable, as she painfully progresses from youthful insensitivity to a deeper honesty and maturity. At the end of the story, Mr Knightley is waiting for her, perceptive, intelligent and dependable as only an Austen character can be.

Moral integrity: There is a range of characters in *Emma*, from the flighty Frank Churchill and the outrageously smug Mrs Elton to the self-absorbed Mr Woodhouse. Underpinning these characters and the sparkling, witty dialogue, is a practical sense of what is important in life: honesty, sensitivity, integrity, a certain amount of money, and humour.

Discussion activities

Introduction

Before reading

- 1 Ask students to read the introduction. The first line of the introduction (and the story) begins, '*Emma Woodhouse was beautiful, clever and rich*'. Each student writes down which they would rather be: beautiful/good looking, clever, or rich. Then put the students into groups and ask them to compare their answers giving reasons for their choice. Put the three choices up on the board. As each student gives their choice, write their names on the board under the appropriate column. Then add up the number of students in each column. Discuss the result.

Chapters 1–2

Before reading

- 2 **Discuss:** Ask the students to think about why Chapter 1 is called 'An Offer of Marriage'. *What does the title mean? What is marriage? Who usually asks who – the man or the woman? Do you think marriage is important? Why/why not? Do you think marriage has changed since Austen wrote Emma? In what ways? If not, why not? Would you like to get married? Why/why not?*

After reading

- 3 **Pair work:** Put students into pairs, and ask them to answer these questions:
 - a What signs does Mr Elton give of his interest in Emma before he asks her to marry him?
 - b Do you think Emma was stupid not to realise? Give reasons for your opinion.
 - c What is your opinion of Emma so far? Would you like her to be your friend? Why/why not?

Emma

Chapters 3–4

After reading

- 4 Guess:** Write these names on the board.
Harriet, Mr Knightley, Jane Fairfax, Frank Churchill, Emma.
Put students into groups, and ask them to discuss the following question:
By the end of the book, all these people are married. From your knowledge so far, who do you think they will marry? Give reasons for your choice.
Tell the students that they will be asked this question again at the end of the book so they must keep a note of their answers to see if their ideas have changed.
- 5 Write:** Ask the students to pretend they are Harriet. Ask them to write a short diary about what has happened and how upset they may be feeling.

Chapters 5–6

After reading

- 6 Discuss:** In groups, students discuss the following questions: *Mrs Elton describes Mrs Weston as a 'lady' and Mr Knightley as a 'gentleman'.*
What do you think she means by these words?
Who in this story do you think is a real 'lady' or 'gentleman'?
Do you think that we can still use these words about people?
- 7 Read carefully:** In pairs, ask the students to re-read pages 27 and 28 and write down how Emma's feelings for Frank Churchill change over these two pages. Ask one pair for feedback and see if others in the class agree. In pairs, ask the students to answer the following questions. *Who does Emma think would be a good match for Frank Churchill now that she is no longer in love with him? Do you think this would be a good match for Frank and Harriet? Can you think of a better match for Harriet or for Frank Churchill?*
Compare answers with the rest of the class.

Chapters 7–8

Before reading

- 8 Guess:** In pairs, ask the students to look at the title of Chapter 8, 'A Secret Engagement'. *Who do they think is engaged? Why do they think that the engagement has been kept a secret? Why do they think it has been revealed now? Do they think all the characters will be happy with the news of the engagement? Who will be happy/unhappy? Why will they be happy/unhappy?*

After reading

- 9 Role play:** Put the students into groups of five. They play the characters of Emma, Jane Fairfax, Frank Churchill, Mr Knightley and Harriet as the situation is at the end of Chapter 8. Tell them to take on the role of these characters and ask them to consider how they are feeling and what they are saying to each other.

- 10 Artwork:** In pairs, ask the students to draw a detailed picture depicting an event that has happened in the last two chapters. When completed, ask each student to describe their picture to the class who can then guess which event has been drawn.

Chapter 9

Before reading

- 11 Guess:** Put the students into pairs. The title of this chapter is: 'Three Weddings'. Ask the students to briefly discuss who will be the bride and groom at each of the three weddings in the chapter title. Why do they think this?

After reading

- 12 Check:** After reading Chapter 9, check to see if the students' predictions were correct about which characters would marry each other.
- 13 Discuss:** Put the students into small groups. Ask them to discuss what advice they would give each of these characters: *Emma, Mr Knightley, Harriet, Frank Churchill, Jane Fairfax, Mr Elton, Mrs Elton, Emma's father, Miss Bates.* Each group can discuss their answers with the rest of the class.
- 14 Discuss:** Explain the word 'snob' to students. Put students into small groups, and ask them to discuss the following question: *Which of these characters do you think is a snob, Emma, Mr Knightley, Mr and Mrs Elton, Harriet?*
Who do you think is not a snob? Give reasons for your opinion.
Do you think Jane Austen liked snobs?
- 15 Write:** In pairs, ask students to write a letter from Emma to Harriet in which she apologises for her matchmaking. They give this letter to another pair and this pair then reads it and writes Harriet's reply before giving it back to the original pair.
As a class, read and discuss some of the letters.
- 16 Pair work:** In pairs ask the students to discuss how Emma's character has changed, grown and developed by the end of the book. *Is she a better person? What has she found out about herself? Does she think she made any mistakes? Is she a happier person? Will she continue to try to match make? Can you find any evidence in the book to support your answers?*
Report back to the rest of the class.

Emma

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While reading

Introduction

1 Without looking at the Introduction, write:

Two things you know about Harriet Smith.

Two things you know about Emma.

Two things you know about Jane Austen.

Chapters 1–2

2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

a Emma's mother died when she was five and Miss Taylor looked after her.

b Mrs Weston used to live with Emma and her father.

c Emma thinks she helped Mrs Weston to find a husband.

d Harriet is rich, like Emma.

e Emma would like Harriet to marry Mr Knightley.

f Robert Martin asked Harriet to marry him.

g Emma suggests that Harriet should accept Robert Martin.

h Mr Knightley is very angry with Emma.

3 What kind of relationship does Emma have with these people? Write a few sentences about each relationship.

Her father Harriet Smith Mr Knightley

4 Underline the wrong word in each sentence and write the correct word.

a Emma's sister, Isabella, lives in Newcastle.
.....

b Miss Taylor marries Mr Knightley.
.....

c Emma thought a farmer was a good match for Harriet.

d Mr Martin phoned Harriet to ask her to marry him.

e Harriet accepted Mr Martin's proposal.
.....

f Mr Weston's son is called John.
.....

5 Answer these questions.

a Who did Mr Elton write his poem to?

b Who is coming for Christmas?

c Why does Emma think that Mr Elton is 'careful'?

d Who has a big dinner on Christmas Eve?

e Who is Frank Churchill's father? Why doesn't Frank live with his father?

f Why is Emma interested in Frank Churchill?

g Who is Mr Elton in love with? How do you know this?

h How does Emma feel about Mr Elton?

i How do you feel about Mr Elton's offer of marriage to Emma? Are you surprised, amused, disappointed? Give reasons for your answer.

6 What do you think will happen next? With another student, answer the questions, giving reasons for your opinions.

a Do you think Emma will tell Harriet about Mr Elton's offer of marriage?

b How do you think Emma feels about the situation between herself, Mr Elton and Harriet?

c Do you think Emma will feel sorry that she suggested to Harriet not to marry Mr Martin?

d Do you think Emma will try to find someone else for Harriet?

Chapters 3–4

7 Match the speakers with the words by putting the letter in the box next to the name.

a Why do you dislike him so much?

b Jane is coming to stay next week.

c Miss Woodhouse, I did not want it to happen.

d But if he really loves Jane Fairfax

e Miss Fairfax is a beautiful woman and talented musician.

1) Harriet

2) Mrs Weston

3) Emma

4) Miss Bates

5) Emma

8 Choose the correct answer.

a Emma feels that Mr Martin is

1) the right person for Harriet.

2) the wrong person for Harriet.

b Jane Fairfax is

1) Miss Bates' niece.

2) Mr Campbell's niece.

c Mrs and Miss Bates are excited because

1) Jane is coming to stay with them.

2) Frank Churchill is coming to stay with them.

Emma

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- d Mr Elton is going to marry
 1) someone from Highbury.
 2) someone who does not live in Highbury.

9 Answer these questions.

- a Who do people say comes from a family with ten thousand pounds?
 b Who does Emma think looks sensible and friendly?
 c Who did Frank meet last summer in Weymouth?
 d Who goes to London to get his hair cut?
 e Who takes his carriage to the Cole's dinner party?
 f Who thinks that Mr Knightley might be interested in Jane Fairfax?
 g Who listens carefully to Jane when she plays the piano and sings?
 h Who pays a lot of attention to Emma at the Cole's dinner party?

Chapters 5–6

10 Find the word 'flirt' in your dictionary. Then answer the following questions.

- a Why are the plans for the ball stopped?
 b How does Emma feel about Frank Churchill?
 c What new 'matchmaking' ideas do you think Emma may have about Frank?
 d Why doesn't Emma like Mrs Elton?
 e Do you believe Mr Knightley when he says he is not in love with Jane Fairfax?
 f What is a 'flirt'? Which people in this story do you think are flirts?

11 Correct these sentences.

- a Harriet is the eighth person at Emma's dinner.
 b Jane goes to the post office every morning to post letters.
 c Mr Weston brings news that Frank is coming to live in Highbury.
 d Frank seems more interested in Emma than before.
 e After dancing with Harriet, Mr Knightley tells Emma that he does not like Harriet.

12 How are these people kind or unkind to Harriet at the ball? What do we learn about them from their behaviour?

Mr and Mrs Elton, Mr Knightley

13 In pairs, imagine a conversation that Emma and Harriet had after the ball, and act it out. Then write the conversation.

Chapters 7–8

14 Complete these sentences.

- a Frank saves Harriet.....
 b Harriet says she felt happy again when she saw.....
 c Mr Knightley thinks Frank has a liking for.....
 d When Frank arrives at Mr Knightley's party he is annoyed.....
 e Emma is rude to.....
 f Mr Knightley is angry with..... because.....
 g Emma cries because.....

15 Answer these questions.

- a Why does Emma visit Miss Bates?
 b Why did Jane decide to leave Highbury and look after three little girls?
 c Why can Frank now marry the woman he is in love with?
 d Why does Emma say about Frank, 'But he was very wrong.'
 e Why did Emma think Harriet was in love with Frank?
 f Why was Jane cold to Emma?

16 In pairs answer these questions.

- a Emma has two surprises in Chapter 8. What are they?
 b What does Emma learn about herself?
 c What is your opinion of Emma? Is she a nice girl? Do you like her?
 d What do you think will happen in the last chapter?

Chapter 9

17 Who says these things? Explain the situation.

- a 'Dear Emma, time will help you forget him.'
 b 'Emma, might there be a chance for me?'
 c 'I could not leave him.'
 d 'Perhaps in a year or two ...'
 e 'It will not work. It is a shocking idea.'
 f 'Good God, this is impossible so soon ...'
 g 'I hope you can forgive me for the way I behaved to you.'

Emma

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Chapters 1–2

1 Complete the sentences with a word from the box.

adopted clever eve Emma poems wife

- a Emma Woodhouse was beautiful, and rich.
- b 'Leave him to choose his own
- laughed Mr Knightley.
- c Mr Knightley knew very well.
- d Harriet was making herself a little book of
- e Mr and Mrs Churchill, had him when his mother died.
- f Mrs Weston invited all the family to Randalls for dinner on Christmas

Chapters 3–4

2 There are mistakes in these sentences. Write the correct information.

- a Mr Elton goes away to London for a few weeks.
- b Jane Fairfax is Miss Bates's daughter.
- c Harriet happens to meet the Martins and they ignore her.
- d Mr Elton is going to marry a poor woman.
- e Emma things Frank Churchill is ugly.
- f Frank Churchill enjoyed singing with Emma.

Chapters 5–6

3 Underline the correct word.

- a If it was so *crowded / busy*, nobody could dance, they decided.
- b 'Miss Woodhouse, it has been a wonderful *month / fortnight*.'
- c As people heard news about *the dance / ball*.
- d Emma felt *sorry / happy* for Jane.
- e 'I only went to the *Post Office / General Store*.'

Chapters 7–8

4 Put the words in the right order to make a sentence.

- a Harriet / gypsies / saves / the / Frank / from
- b Highbury / back / Jane / walks / Fairfax / to
- c Hill / trip / arranged / A / Box / was / to
- d rude / Bates / was / Emma / to / Miss
- e secretly / was / Frank / engaged / Jane / to / Fairfax

Chapter 9

5 What happens first? Put the sentences in the right order and number them 1–7.

- a Emma accepts.
- b Emma learns about Harriet's engagement to Robert Martin.
- c Emma and Mr Knightley get married.
- d Emma meets Mr Knightley in the garden.
- e Harriet and Robert Martin get married.
- f Mr Knightley proposes to Emma.
- g They decide they will have to live at Hartfield once they are married.

6 Finish the sentences.

- a Emma was about Mr Knightly and Harriet at the same time.
- b Although Emma enjoyed Frank's company, she never him.
- c After Harriet went to London she did not see Emma for several
- d Mr Knightley thought Mr Woodhouse would be very if Emma left Hartfield.
- e Thinking about made Emma sad.
- f When Harriet was in Highbury Emma always felt when she saw Mr Knightley.
- g Mr Woodhouse was not happy about the thought of his life.
- h Even though most people in Highbury thought it was a good match did not.
- i Emma was when she heard about Mr Martin's marriage to Harriet.
- j Emma did not about the secret engagement.
- k After some chickens were stolen Emma's father did not feel in his house.

After reading

7 Write right (✓) or wrong (X) or it does not say (?).

- a Mrs Elton and Emma are good friends.
- b Harriet marries Mr Knightley.
- c Jane Fairfax and Frank Churchill get married.
- d Jane Fairfax is Miss Bates' niece.
- e Mrs Weston was Jane Fairfax's governess.
- f Robert Martin is a sailor.
- g Mr Elton is a vicar.
- h Mrs Weston is pregnant.
- i Isabella is Emma's mother.

Emma

Book key

- 1 a marry
b annoyed
- 2–3 Open answers
- 4 a John Knightley
b Emma Woodhouse
c Miss Taylor
d Mr Woodhouse
e Mr Knightley
f Mr Elton
g Isabella Woodhouse
h Harriet Smith
i Robert Martin
j Mr Weston
- 5 a ✓ b ✓ d ✓ f ✓
- 6–9 Open answers
- 10 a ~~Woodhouse's~~ > Elton's
b ~~delighted~~ > insulted
c ~~Highbury~~ > London
d ~~likes~~ > dislikes
e ~~bad~~ > good
- 11 a impressed b brilliant c balls d Jane
e worried
- 12–15 Open answers
- 16 a Randalls
b Highbury
c Mr Knightley
d Mrs Churchill
e Emma
- 17 Order: 1 e, 2 c, 3 f, 4 g, 5 a, 6 d, 7 b
- 18–21 Open answers
- 22 a ✓ c ✓ d ✓ e ✓
- 23 a Mrs Smallridge
b Mrs Churchill
c Jane Fairfax
d Frank Churchill
e Mr Knightley
- 24–25 Open answers
- 26 a Mr Weston
b hopeful
c kiss
d Harriet
e Hartfield
f Robert Martin
g Harriet Smith
h behaved badly

- 27 a T b F c T d T e F f F
- 28 a Emma says this to Mr Knightley because she did not suspect that Frank loved Jane.
b Mr Knightley says this to Emma because his love is too great for words. Perhaps he is also afraid to say too much in case she has no feelings for him.
c Mrs Elton says this to her husband. She thinks it is a bad idea for Emma and Mr Knightley to live with Emma's father at Hartfield.
d Mr Knightley says this to Emma. He wants to explain why he often spoke with Harriet.
e Frank Churchill says this to Emma. He wants to apologise and explain his behaviour towards her while he was engaged to Jane.

29–40 Open answers

Discussion activities key

- 1–2 Open answer
- 3 a Mr Elton liked Emma's picture of Harriet because he liked Emma and the poem he wrote was for Emma, not Harriet. Mr Elton didn't mind that Harriet could not go to Mrs Weston's party. He talks to Emma a lot at the party.
b Open answer
c Open answer
- 4–5 Open answers
- 6 Dictionary definitions: lady/gentleman: a woman/man who is polite and behaves well towards other people. In earlier times a 'lady' or a 'gentleman' was someone from the upper classes.
a Perhaps she means that they were brought up in upper class families.
- 7 Emma thinks he is in love with her and writes in her diary that 'I suppose that I am in love with him'. This changes to being a 'little in love with Frank' and finally to 'Now that Emma was not in love with Frank herself.' She then goes on to consider a match between Harriet and Frank.
- 8–13 Open answers
- 14 Emma is a snob. She does not think Harriet should marry a man who is only a farmer, but she is kind to Bates and visits them although they do not have much money. Mr Knightley teaches her to value people for who they are.
Mr Knightley is not a snob – he likes people for their qualities like, Robert Martin. He is kind to Miss Bates after Emma is rude to her.

Emma

Mr and Mrs Elton are snobs. They are unkind to Harriet who has no money and Mrs Elton expresses surprise that Mrs Weston is a 'lady'.

Harriet is not a snob. Until Emma persuaded her to look for a man with money and a higher social position, she was quite happy to marry a farmer. We can guess that Jane Austen did not like snobs, as they are usually shown as unpleasant people.

15–16 Open answers

Activity worksheets key

- 1 Open answer
- 2 a T b T c T d F e F f T g F h T
- 3 **Emma and her father:** Emma tries to make her father happy. She entertains his friends and plays cards with them.
Emma and Harriet Smith: They become good friends. Harriet thinks Emma is wonderful. Emma is trying to improve Harriet and change her life. She has a strong effect on Harriet. Although Harriet likes Robert Martin, Emma gets her to change her mind about marrying him.
Emma and Mr Knightley: They are old friends. Mr Knightley is honest with Emma and tells her what he thinks about things. He is not afraid to be angry with her.
- 4 a London b Mr Weston c Vicar d wrote to
e refused f Frank
- 5 a Emma
b Emma's sister, Isabella, and her husband
c Because when he is alone with Harriet, he does not tell her that he loves her. Emma thinks this is because he wants to be sure that Harriet loves him.
d Mr and Mrs Weston
e His father is Mr Weston. Frank's mother (Mr Weston's first wife) died when Frank was a baby. Frank's aunt and uncle, Mr and Mrs Churchill, adopted him and Frank took their family name.
f Because they are about the same age. Also, now that their families are joined in marriage through Mrs Weston, Emma feels that Frank is the man she should marry.
g He is in love with Emma. We know this because on the way back from the Weston's dinner party, he asks her to marry him.
h Emma has no interest in Mr Elton. She would like him to marry Harriet.
i Open answers
- 6 Open answers
- 7 a 3 b 4 c 1 d 2 e 5
- 8 a 2 b 1 c 1 d 2
- 9 a Augusta Hawkins, Mr Elton's future wife
b Frank Churchill
c Jane Fairfax
d Frank Churchill
e Mr Knightley
f Mrs Weston
g Mr Knightley
h Frank Churchill
- 10 a Because Frank has to return to London because Mrs Churchill is very ill.
b At first she thinks she is in love with him because she thinks about him a lot. But after he goes to London Emma realises that she only likes him as a friend.
c She starts to wonder if Frank could become interested in Harriet.
d Because Mrs Elton is a little too comfortable with strangers. She calls Mr Knightley 'Knightley' and says she is surprised that Mrs Weston is a lady. She talks a lot. She is rude and sees herself as very important.
e Open answers
f A 'flirt' is someone who appears to find someone attractive and tries to attract this person.
- 11 a Jane Fairfax is the eighth person.
b Jane goes to the post office every morning to fetch letters.
c Mr Weston brings news that Frank is going to stay near Highbury for a few months.
d Frank seems less interested in Emma than before.
e After dancing with Harriet, Mr Knightley tells Emma that Harriet has some excellent qualities and is pleasant and easy to talk to.
- 12 For the last two dances, Harriet is the only young lady with no partner. Mr Elton has no partner and Mrs Weston asks him to ask Harriet to dance but he refuses. Mr Knightley sees the situation and dances with Harriet. Afterwards, he tells Emma that the Eltons wanted to hurt her and Harriet. From this, we can see that the Eltons are not nice people. Mr Knightley, however is a gentleman.
- 13 Open answers
- 14 a Frank saves Harriet from some gypsy children,
b Harriet says she felt happy again when she saw 'him' coming towards her.

Emma

- c Mr Knightley thinks Frank has a liking for Jane Fairfax.
- d When Frank arrives at Mr Knightley's party he is annoyed because Jane has gone home.
- e Emma is rude to Miss Bates.
- f Mr Knightley is angry with Emma because she was so unkind to Miss Bates.
- g Emma cries because she behaved badly and Mr Knightley is angry with her.
- 15** a She wants to apologise for being rude to her.
- b She believed that Frank was in love with Emma and that she and Frank could never marry.
- c His aunt is dead. While she was alive there was no hope of Frank and Jane marrying.
- d Frank flirted with Emma a lot and made her think that he was in love with her.
- e Harriet talked about a man 'coming towards her' and how happy she felt. Emma thought she meant Frank, when he saved her from the gypsies. But Harriet meant Mr Knightley, when he came towards her and asked her to dance when she had no partner.
- f She thought Frank was in love with Emma.
- 16** a She learns that Frank and Jane Fairfax have been secretly engaged. She also learns that Harriet is in love with Mr Knightley, not Frank.
- b She learns that she loves Mr Knightley.
- c–d Open answers
- 17** a Mr Knightley. He believes that Emma is in love with Frank Churchill and will be upset because Frank is going to marry Jane Fairfax.
- b Mr Knightley is telling Emma that he loves her and wants to marry her.
- c Emma about her father. She feels she could not leave her father alone to live with Mr Knightley.
- d Emma's father says this when he hears that Emma and Mr Knightley plan to marry and live at Hartfield.
- e Mrs Elton's opinion of the news that Emma and Mr Knightley will live at Hartfield.
- f Emma when she hears that Harriet is going to marry Robert Martin.
- g Frank Churchill to Emma. He is apologising for flirting with her and making her believe he was serious about her.

Progress test key

- 1** a clever b wife c Emma d poems e adopted
f eve
- 2** a Bath b niece c talk d rich e handsome
f dancing
- 3** a crowded b fortnight c ball d sorry
e Post Office
- 4** a Frank saves Harriet from the gypsies.
b Jane Fairfax walks back to Highbury.
c A trip was arranged to Box Hill.
d Emma was rude to Miss Bates.
e Frank was secretly engaged to Jane Fairfax.
- 5** a 3 b 5 c 7 d 1 e 6 f 2 g 4
- 6** a thinking
b loved
c weeks
d sad/upset/unhappy
e Harriet
f guilty
g changing
h Mrs Elton
i surprised
j know
k safe
- 7** a X b X c ✓ d ✓ e X f X g ✓ h ✓
i X